

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Rural Health Clinics
Regional Administrators
CSO Administrators

Memorandum No.: 01-58 MAA
Issued: September 1, 2001

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From: James C. Wilson, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)

Subject: Corrections to the July 2001 Rural Health Clinic Billing Instructions

This memorandum discusses corrections to the Medical Assistance Administration's (MAA) Rural Health Clinic Billing Instructions, dated July 2001. **These corrections are retroactive to claims with dates of service on or after January 1, 2001.**

Reimbursement for Services in a Rural Health Clinic (RHC)

- Both hospital-based and freestanding RHCs must bill MAA for RHC services using their state-unique encounter codes and their encounter rates.
 - ✓ The RHC must use its state-unique procedure code for RHC services. Do not use a CPT or HCPCS procedure code.
 - ✓ The RHC must use its encounter rate as the charge for the service. Do not bill your usual and customary fee.

Covered Services Not Included in the Rural Health Encounter Rate

- The established encounter rate does not include clinical diagnostic laboratory services. This exclusion extends to the six laboratory tests required for RHC certification.
 - ✓ The RHC must bill diagnostic laboratory services using its main MAA-assigned provider number. MAA reimburses these services on a fee-for-service basis.

Billing for Medicare/Medicaid Crossover Claims

- Medicare/Medicaid crossover claims must be billed using a UB-92 claim form.

Attached are replacement pages 3/4, 5/6, 11/12, 15/16, and 19/20 for MAA's Rural Health Clinic Billing Instructions, dated July 2001. To obtain this numbered memorandum and fee schedules electronically go to MAA's website at <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov>.